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FREDERIC THOMAS BLANCHARD ENDOWMENT FUND

EDUCATION, A POEM:

In TWO CANTOS.

Written in Imitation of the STYLE and MANNER

O F

SPENSER'S FAIRY QUEEN. By GILBERT WEST, E/9;

CANTO the First.

Unum studium vere liberale est, quod liberum facit. Hoc Sapientiæ studium est, sublime, forte, magnanimum: Cætera pussilla & puerilia sunt.— Plus scire velle quàm sit satis intemperantiæ genus est. Quid, quòd ista liberalium Artium Consectatio molestos, verboso, intempestivos, sibi placentes facit, & ideo non discentes necessaria, quia supervaua didicerunt. SEN. EP. 88.

L O N D O N:

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EDUCATION,

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2 A

3)

Par O E M.

Inferib'd to Lady LANGHAM, Widow of Sir JOHN LANGHAM, Bt.

Goodly DISCIPLINE! from Heav'n y-fprong! Parent of Science! Queen of Arts refin'd! To whom the Graces, and the Nine belong: Q! bid thofe Graces, in fair Chorus join'd With each bright Virtue that adorns the Mind! O bid the Mufes, thine harmonious/Train, Who by thy Aid erft humaniz'd Mankind, and did of Infpire, direct, and moralize the Strain, That doth effay to teach thy Treafures how to gain! A 2 And

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[4.]

And THOU, whole pious and maternal Care, The Subflitute of heav'nly Providence, With tendereft Love my Orphan Life did rear, And train me up to manly Strength and Senfe; With mildeft Awe, and virtuous Influence, Directing my unpractic'd wayward Feet To the fmooth Walks of Truth and Innocence; Where Happinefs heart-felt, Contentment fweet, Philofophy divine aye hold their bleft Retreat,

THOU, most belov'd, most honour'd, most rever'd ! Accept this Verse, to thy large Merit due ! And blame me not, if by each Tye endear'd, Of Nature, Gratitude, and Friendship true, The whiles this moral Thesis I pursue, And trace the Plan of goodly + Nurture o'er, I bring thy modest Virtues into View;

And proudly boast that from *thy* precious Store, Which erft enrich'd my Heart, I drew this facred Lore.

And

+ Nurture, Education.

[5]

And thus, I ween, thus fhall I beft repay
The valued Gifts, thy careful Love beftow'd;
If imitating THEE, well as I may,
I labour to diffufe th' important Good;
'Till this great Truth by all be underftood;
"That all the pious Duties which we owe,
"Our Parents, Friends, our Country and our God;
"The Seeds of every Virtue here below,
"From Difcipline alone, and early Culture grow.



CANTO

[6]

CANTO I.

ARGUMENT.

The Knight, as to + PÆDîA's Houfe He his young Son conveys, Is flaid by CUSTOM; with him fights, And his vain Pride difmays.

Gentle KNIGHT there was, whofe noble Deeds O'er Fairy Land by Fame were blazon'd round: For War like Enterprize, and fage + areeds Emong the chief alike was he renown'd; Whence with the Marks of higheft Honours crown'd By GLORIANA, in Domeftick Peace, That Port, to which the Wife are ever bound, He anchor'd was, and chang'd the toffing Seas Cf buftling bufy Life, for calm fequefter'd Eafe.

II. There

* Pædia is a Greek Word, fignifying Education. + Areeds, Counfels.

[. 7 ·] II.

There in domeflick Virtue rich and great As erft in publick, 'mid his wide Domain, Long in primæval Patriarchal State, The Lord, the Judge, the Father of the Plain, He dwelt ; and with him, in the golden Chain Of wedded Faith y-link'd, a *Matron* fage Aye dwelt ; fweet Partner of his Joy and Pain, Sweet Charmer of his Youth, Friend of his Age, Skill'd to improve his Blifs, his Sorrows to affuage.

III.

From this fair Union, not of fordid Gain,

But Merit fimilar and mutual Love,

True Source of lineal Virtue, fprung a Train Of Youths and Virgins; like the beauteous Grove, Which round the Temple of *Olympick Jove*, Begirt with youthful Bloom the + *Parent* Tree, The *facred Olive*; whence old *Elis* wove Her verdant Crowns of peaceful Victory,

The * Guerdons of bold Strength, and fwift Activity.

† Parent Tree, the facred Olive] This Tree grew in the Altis, or facred Grove of Olympick Jupiter at Olympia, having, as th' Eleans pretended, been originally planted there by Hercules. It was effecent'd facred, and from that were taken the Olympick Crowns. See Paufanias. Eliac. and the Differtation on the Olym.Games. * Guerdons, Rewards.

[8] IV.

So round their noble Parents goodly rofe Thefe generous Scyons; they with watchful Care Still, as the fwelling Paffions gan difclofe The Buds of future Virtues, did prepare With prudent Culture the young Shoots to rear: And aye in this endearing pious Toil They by a + *Palmer* fage inftructed were,

Who from deep Thought and fludions Search erewhile Had learnt to mend the Heart, and till the Human Soil.

V.

For by cœleftial *Wifdom* whilom led Through all th'Apartments of th' immortal Mind, He view'd her fecret Stores, and mark'd the ‡ Sted To Judgment, Wit, and Memory affign'd ; And how Senfation and Reflection join'd To fill with Images her darkfome *Grotte*, Where varioufly disjointed or combin'd, As Reafon, Fancy, or Opinion wrought, Their variousMasksthey play'd, and fed her penfiveThought.

Palmer, Pilgrim. The Perfon here fignified is Mr. Locke, characteriz'd by his Works.

‡ Sted, Place, Station.

[9] VI.

* Alfe through the Fields of *Science* had he ftray'd With eager Search; and fent his piercing Eye Through each learn'd *School*, each *Philofophick Shade*, Where *Truth* and *Virtue* erft were deem'd to lie; If haply the fair Vagrants he +mote fpy, Or hear the Mufick of their charming Lore : But all unable there to fatisfy

His curious Soul, he turn'd him to explore 'The *facred Writ of Faith*; to learn, believe, adore. VII.

Thence Foe profefs'd of *Falfhood* and *Deceit*, Thofe fly Artificers of Tyranny, ‡ Aye holding up before uncertain Feet His faithfull Light, to *Knowledge*, *Liberty*, Mankind he led, to *Civil Policy*, And mild *Religion*'s charitable Law ; That fram'd by *Mercy* and *Benignity* The perfecuting Sword forbids to draw, And free-created Souls with penal Terrours awe.

VIII. Ne

* Alfe, alfo, further. + Mote, might. ‡ Aye, ever.

В

[10] VIII.

* Ne with thefe glorious Gifts elate and vain Lock'd he his Wifdom up in churlifh Pride;
But, ftooping from his Height, would even deign The feeble Steps of *Infancy* to guide.
Eternal Glory Him therefore betide !
Let every generous Youth *bis* Praife proclaim !
Who, wand'ring through the World's rude Foreft wide, By him hath been y-taught his Courfe to frame

To Virtue's fweet Abodes, and Heav'n-afpiring Fame !

IX.

For this the FAIRY KNIGHT with anxious Thought, And fond paternal Care his Counfel pray'd; And him of gentleft Courtefy befought His Guidance to vouchfafe and friendly Aid; The while his tender Offspring he convey'd, Through devious Paths to that fecure Retreat; Where fage PÆDîA, with each tuneful Maid, On a wide Mount had fix'd her rural Seat, 'Mid flowery Gardens placed, untrod by vulgar Feet.

X. And

* Ne, nor.

[11] X.

And now forth-pacing with his blooming Heir, And that fame virtuous *Palmer* them to guide; Arm'd all to point, and on a Courfer fair Y-mounted high, in military Pride, His little Train before he flow did ride. Him eke behind a gentle *Squire* * enfues, With his young *Lord* aye marching fide by fide, His Counfellour and Guard, in goodly + Thews, Who well had been up-brought, and nurs'd by every Mufe. XI.

Thus as their pleafing Journey they purfued, With chearful Argument beguiling Pain ; Ere long defeending from an Hill they view'd Beneath their Eyes out-ftretch'd a fpacious Plain, That fruitful fhew'd, and apt for every Grain, For Paftures, Vines and Flow'rs ; while Nature fair Sweet-fmiling all around with Count'nance ‡ fain Seem'd to demand the Tiller's Art and Care,

Her Wildnefs to correct, her lavifh Wafte repair. B 2 XII. Right

* Enfues, follows. + Thews, Manners. ‡ Fain, earneft, eager.

[12] XII.

Right good, I ween, and bounteous was the Soil, Aye wont in happy Seafons to repay With tenfold Ufury the Peafant's Toil. But now 'twas Ruin all, and wild Decay ; Untill'd the Garden and the Fallow lay, TheSheep-fhorneDown with barren*Brahes o'ergrown; The whiles the merry Peafants fport and play, All as the publick Evil were unknown,

Or every publick Care from every Breaft was flown.

XIII.

Aftonifh'd at a Scene at once fo fair And fo deform'd ; with Wonder and Delight At Man's neglect, and Nature's Bounty rare, In ftudious Thought a-while the Fairy Knight, Bent on that goodly ‡ Lond his eager Sight : Then forward rufh'd, impatient to defcry What Towns or Caftles there-in were + empight ; For Towns him feem'd, and Caftles he did fpy,

As to th' Horizon round he ftretch'd his roaming Eye. XIV. Nor

* Brabes, Briars. ‡ Lond, Land. + Empight, placed.

[13] XIV.

Nor long way had they travell'd, ere they came To a wide Stream, that with tumultuous Roar Emongft rude Rocks it's winding Courfe did frame. Black was the Wave and fordid, cover'd o'er With angry Foam, and ftain'd with Infant's Gore. Thereto along th'unlovely margin ftood A Birchen Grove, that waving from the Shore, Aye caft upon the Tide it's falling Bud, And with it's bitter Juice empoifon'd all the Flood.

XV.

Right in the Centre of the Vale empight,
Not diftant far a *forked Mountain* rofe ;
In outward Form prefenting to the Sight
That fam'd *Parnafjian* Hill, on whofe fair Brows
The *Nine Aonian Sifters* wont repofe;
Lift'ning to fweet *Caflalia*'s founding Stream,
Which through the Plains of *Cirrha* murm'ring flows.
But This to That compar'd mote juftly feem
Ne fitting Haunt for Gods, ne worthy Man's Efteem.

XVI. For

[14] XVI.

For This nor founded deep, nor fpredden wide, Nor high up-rais'd above the level Plain, By toiling Art through tedious Years applied, From various Parts compil'd with fludious Pain, Was * erft up-thrown ; if fo it mote attain, Like that *Poetick Mountain*, to be + hight The noble Seat of *Learning*'s goodly Train. Thereto, the more to captivate the Sight,

It like a Garden fair most curiously was ‡ dight.

XVII.

In figur'd Plots with leafy Walls inclos'd, By Meafure and by Rule it was out-lay'd; With Symmetry fo regular difpos'd, That Plot to Plot ftill anfwer'd, Shade to Shade; Each correspondent Twain alike array'd With like Embellishments of Plants and Flow'rs, Of Statues, Vafes, spouting Founts, that play'd Through Shells of Tritons their ascending Show'rs, And Labyrinths involv'd and Trelice-woven Bow'rs.

* Erst, formerly. + Hight, called, named. ‡ Dight, dreft.

[15] XVIII.

There likewife mote be feen on every fide The Yew obedient to the Planter's will, And fhapely Box of all their branching Pride Ungently fhorne, and with prepofterous Skill To various Beafts and Birds of fundry Quill Transform'd, and Human Shapes of monftrous Size; Huge as that Giant-Race, who, Hill on Hill

High-heaping, fought with impious vain * Emprize, Despight of thund'ring *Jove*, to scale the steepy Skies.

XIX.

Alfe other Wonders of the fportive Shears Fair Nature mif-adorning there were found ; Globes, fpiral Columns, Pyramids and Piers With fprouting Urns and budding Statues crown'd ; And horizontal Dials on the Ground In living Box by cunning Artifts trac'd ; And Gallies trim, on no long Voyage bound, But by their Roots there ever anchor'd faft,

+ All were their bellying Sails out-fpread to every Blait. XX. O'er

^{*} *Emprize*, Enterprize, Attempt. + All, used frequently by the old *Englifb* Poets for all-though.

[16] XX.

O'er all appear'd the Mountain's forked Brows With Terraffes on Terraffes up-thrown; And all along arrang'd in order'd Rows, And Viftos broad, the velvet Slopes adown The ever-verdant Trees of *Daphne* fhone. But aliens to the Clime, and brought of old From *Latian* Plains, and *Grecian Helicon*,

They fhrunk and languish'd in a foreign Mold, By changeful Summers starv'd, and pinch'd by Winter's Cold-

XXI.

Amid this verdant Grove with folemn State,
On golden Thrones of antique Form reclin'd,
In mimick Majefty *Nine Virgins* fate,
In Feature various, as unlike in Mind :
Alfe boafted they themfelves of heav'nly kind,
And to the fweet *Parnaffian Nymphs* allied ;
Thence round their Brows the *Delphick Bay* they twin'd,
And matching with high Names their apifh Pride,
O'er every learned *School* aye claim'd they to prefide.

XXII. In

[17] XXII.

In antique Garbs, for modern they difdain'd, By Greek and Roman Artifts + whilom made, Of various Woofs, and varioufly diftain'd With Tints of ev'ry Hue, were they array'd; And here and there ambitioufly difplay'd A Purple Shred of fome rich Robe prepared Erft by the *Mufes* or th' *Athenian Maid*

To deck great *Tullius* or the *Mantuan Bard*; Which o'er each motley Vest with uncouth Splendor glared.

XXIII.

And well their outward Vefture did express The Bent and Habit of their inward Mind, Affecting Wifdom's antiquated Drefs, And Ufages by Time caft far behind. Thence, to the Charms of younger Science blind, The Cuftoms, Laws, the Learning, Arts, and Phrafe Of their own Countries, they with fcorn declin'd; Ne *facred Trutb* herfelf would they embrace, Unwarranted, unknown in their Fore-fathers Days. C XXIV, Thus

+ Whilom, formerly.

[18]

XXIV.

Thus ever backward cafting their Survey; To *Rome*'s old Ruins and the Groves forlorn Of elder *Athens*, which in profpect lay Stretch'd out beneath the mountain, would they turn Their bufy Search, and o'er the Rubbifh mourn. Then gathering up with fuperflitious Care, Each little Scrap, however foul or torn, In grave Harangues they boldly would declare,

This *Ennius*, *Varro*; This the *Stagirite* did wear. XXV.

Yet, under Names of venerable Sound, Wide o'er the World they ftretch'd their awful Rod; Through all the Provinces of *Learning* own'd For *Teachers* of whate'er is Wife and Good. Alfe from each Region to their + drad Abode Came Youths unnumber'd, crouding all to tafte The *Streams* of *Science*; which united flow'd Adown the *Mount*, from *Nine* rich fources caft; And to the Vale below in one rude Torrent pafs'd. XXVI. O'er + Drad, dreadful.

[19]

XXVI.

O'er every Source, Protectrefs of the Stream, One of thofe Virgin Sifters did prefide; Who, dignifying with her noble Name Her proper Flood, aye pour'd into the Tide The heady Vapours of Scholastick Pride Defpotical and abject, bold and blind, Fierce in Debate, and forward to decide; Vain Love of Praife, with Adulation join'd, And difingenuous Scorn, and Impotence of Mind.

XXVII.

Extending from the Hill on every fide,
In Circuit vaft a verdant Valley fpread ;
Acrofs whofe uniform flat Bofom glide
Ten thoufand Streams, in winding mazes led,
By various Sluces from one common Head;
A turbid Mafs of Waters, vaft, profound,
Hight of *Philology* the Lake ; and fed
By that rude Torrent, which with roaring Sound
Came tumbling from the Hill, and flow'd the Level round.

C 2 XXVIII. And

[20] XXVIII.

And every where this fpacious Valley o'er, Faft by each Stream was feen a numerous Throng Of beardless Striplings, to the birch-crown'd Shore, By Nurfes, Guardians, Fathers dragg'd along : Who helplefs, meek, and innocent of Wrong, Were torn reluctant from the tender fide Of their fond Mothers, and by + Faitours ftrong, By Pow'r made Infolent, and hard by Pride Were driv'n with furious Rage, and lash'd into the Tide.

1/

XXIX.

On the rude Bank with trembling Feet they flood, And caffing round their oft-reverted Eyes, If haply they mote 'fcape the hated Flood, Fill'd all the Plain with lamentable Cries; But far away th' unheeding Father flies, Constrain'd his strong Compunctions to repress; While clofe behind, affuming the Difguife

Of nurturing Care, and fmiling Tendernefs, With fecret Scourges arm'd those griefly Faitours prefs. XXX. As

⁺ Faitour, Doer, from faire, to do and fait Deed, commonly used by Spenfer in a bad Senfe.

[21] XXX.

As on the fteepy Margin of a Brook, When the young Sun with flowery *Maia* rides, With innocent Difinay a bleating Flock Croud back, affrighted at the rolling Tides : The Shepherd-Swain at firft exhorting chides. Their + feely Fear ; at length impatient grown, With his rude Crook he wounds their tender Sides ; And all regardlefs of their piteous moan, Into the dafhing Waves compells them furious down.

XXXI.

Thus urg'd by maft'ring *Fear* and dol'rous *+ Teen* Into the Current plung'd that Infant Croud. Right piteous was the Spectacle, I ween, Of tender Striplings, ftain'd with Tears and Blood, Perforce conflicting with the bitter Flood; And labouring to attain the diftant Shore, Where holding forth the *Gown* of *Manhood* flood The Siren Liberty, and ever-more Sollicited their Hearts with her inchanting Lore:

+ Seely, fimple. * Teen, Pain, Grief.

[22] XXXII.

Irkfome and long the Paffage was, perplex'd With rugged Rocks on which the raving Tide By fudden Burfts of angry Tempefts vex'd Oft dafh'd the Youth, whofe Strength mote ill abide With Head up-lifted o'er the Waves to ride. Whence many wearied ere they had o'er-paft The middle Stream (for they in vain have tried)

Again return'd + aftounded and aghaft; Ne one regardful Look would ever backward caft.

XXXIII.

Some, of a rugged, more enduring Frame, Their toilfom Courfe with patient Pain purfu'd; And tho' with many a Bruife and * muchel Blame, Eft hanging on the Rocks, and eft embru'd Deep in the muddy Stream, with Hearts fubdu'd And quail'd by Labour, gain'd the Shore at laft, But in Life's practick || Lear unfkill'd and rude, Forth to that *Forked Hill* they filent paced; Where hid in fludious Shades their fruitlefsHours they wafte.

XXXIV. Others

+ Aftounded, aftonish'd. * Muchel, much. || Lear, Learning.

[23] XXXIV.

Others of rich and noble Lineage bred, Though with the Croud to pass the Flood conftrain'd, Yet o'er the Craggs with fond Indulgence led By *hireling* Guides and in all Depths fustain'd, Skimm'd lightly o'er the Tide, undipt, unstain'd, Save with the sprinkling of the wat'ry Spray : And aye their proud Prerogative maintain'd, Of Ignorance and Ease and wanton Play, Soft Harbingers of Vice, and præmature Decay.

XXXV.

A Few, alas, how few ! by Heav'n's high Will-With fubtile Spirits endow'd and Sinews ftrong, *Albe fore † mated by the Tempefts fhrill, That bellow'd fierce and rife the Rocks among, By their own *Native Vigour* borne along Cut brifkly through the Waves; and Forces new Gathering from Toil, and Ardor from the Throng Of rival Youths, outftript the labouring Crew, And to the true ‡ *Parnaffe*, and Heav'n-thron'd Glory flew. XXXVI. Dire

*Albe, although. +Mated, amazed, fcared. ‡ Parnasse, Parnasse.

[24] XXXVI.

Dire was the Tumult, and from every Shore Difcordant Ecchoes Aruck the deafen'd Ear, Heart-thrilling Cries, with Sobbs and '+ Singults fore Short-interrupted, the imploring Tear, And furious Stripes, and angry Threats fevere, Confus'dly mingled with the jarring Sound Of all the various Speeches that * while-ear On Shinar's wide-fpread Champain did aftound

High *Babel*'s Builders vain, and their proud Works confound. XXXVII.

Much was the KNIGHT empaffion'd at the Scene, But more his blooming Son ; whofe tender Breaft Empierced deep with fympathizing Teen On his pale Cheek the Signs of Dread imprefs'd, And fill'd his Eyes with Tears, which fore diftrefs'd Up to his Sire he rais'd in mournful wife ; Who with fweet Smiles paternal foon redrefs'd His troublous Thoughts, and clear'd each fad Surmife; Then turns his ready Steed, and on his Journey hies.

XXXVIII. But

+ Singults, fighs. * While-ear, formerly.

[25] XXXVIII.

But far he had not march'd ere he was ftay'd By a rude Voice, that like th'united Sound Of fhouting Myriads, through the Valley bray'd, And fhook the Groves, the Floods, and folid Ground : The diftant Hills rebellow'd all around. " Arreft, *Sir Knight*, it cried, thy fond Career, " Nor with prefumptuous Difobedience wound " That aweful Majefty, which all revere !

" In my Commands, Sir Knight, the Voice of Nations hear! XXXIX.

Quick turn'd the KNIGHT, and faw upon the Plain Advancing towards him with impetuous Gate, And Vifage all inflamed with fierce Difdain, A monftrous GIANT, on whofe Brow elate Shone the bright Enfign of imperial State; Albeit lawful Kingdom had he none; But Laws and Kingdoms wont he oft create, And oft'times over both crect his Throne, While Senates, Priefts and Kings his forman Sceptre own.

> D XL. CUSTOM † Sovran, for Sovereign.

[26] XL.

CUSTOM he hight; and aye in every Land Ufurp'd Dominion with defpotick Sway O'er all he holds; and to his high Command Conftrains even flubborn *Nature* to obey; Whom difpoffeffing oft, he doth affay To govern in her Right: and with a Pace So foft and gentle doth he win his Way, That fhe unwares is caught in his Embrace,

And tho' deflowr'd and thrall'd nought feels her foulDifgrace,

XLI.

For nurt'ring, even from their tend'reft Age, The docile Sons of Men, withouten Pain, By Difciplines and Rules to every Stage Of Life accommodate, he doth them train Infenfibly to wear and hug his Chain. Alfe his Behefts or gentle or fevere, Or good or noxious, rational or vain, He craftily perfuades them to revere, As Inftitutions fage, and venerable Lear.

XLII. Pro-

[27] XLII.

Protector therefore of that Forked Hill, And mighty Patron of those Sisters Nine, Who there enthron'd, with many a copious Rill Feed the full Streams, that through the Valley shine, He deemed was; and aye with Rites divine, + Like those, which Sparta's hardy Race of yore Were wont perform at fell Diana's Shrine,

He doth conftrain his Vassals to adore Perforce their aweful Names, and learn their facred Lore.

XLIII.

And to the FAIRY KNIGHT now drawing near, With Voice terrifick, and imperious Mien, (All was he wont lefs dreadful to appear, When known and practifed than at Diftance feen) And Kingly ftretching forth his Sceptre fheen, He him commandeth, upon threatned Pain Of his Difpleafure high and Vengeance keen, From his rebellious Purpofe to refrain, And all due Honours pay to *Learning*'s rev'rend Train.

+ The Lacedemonians in order to make their Children hardy and endure Pain with Conftancy and Courage, were accuftomed to cause them to be focurged very severely. And I myself (tays *Plutarch*, in his Life of *Lycurgus*) have seen several of them endure *whipping* to *Death*, at the Foot of the Altar of *Diana* furnamed Orthia.

[28] XLIV.

So faying and foreftalling all Reply, His peremptory Hand without Delay, As one who little cared to juftify His princely Will, long us'd to boundlefs Sway, Upon the Fairy Youth with great Difmay In every quaking Limb convuls'd, he lay'd : And proudly ftalking o'er the verdant * Lay, Him to thofe fcientifick Streams convey'd,

With many his young Compeers therein to be + embay'd.

XLV.

The KNIGHT his tender Son's diftrefsful ‡ Stour Perceiving, fwift to his Affiftance flew : Ne vainly ftay'd to deprecate that Pow'r, Which from Submiffion aye more haughty grew. For that proud GIANT's Force he wifely knew, Not to be meanly dreaded, nor defy'd With rafh Prefumption ; and with Courage true, Rather than ftep from Virtue's Paths afide,

Oft had he fingly fcorn'd his all-difmaying Pride.

XLVI. And

*Lav, Mead. + Embay'd, bathed, dipt. ‡ Stour, Trouble, Misfortune, &c.

(29) XLVI.

And now, difdaining Parle, his Courfer hot He fiercely prick'd, and couch'd his vengeful Spear; Where-with the GIANT he fo rudely fmot, That him perforce conftrain'd to + wend arrear. Who, much abafh'd at fuch Rebuke fevere, Yet his accuftom'd Pride recov'ring foon, Forth-with his maffy Sceptre gan up-rear; For other warlike Weapon had he none, Ne other him behoved to quell his boldeft ‡ Fone. XLVII.

With that enormous *Mace* the FAIRY KNIGHT So fore he * bet, that all his Armour bray'd, To pieces well-nigh riven with the Might Of fo tempeftuous Strokes : but He was ftaid,. And ever with deliberate Valour weigh'd The fudden Changes of the doubtful Fray ; From cautious Prudence oft deriving Aid,

When Force unequal did him hard affay : So lightly from his Steed he leapt upon the Lay.

+ Wend arrear, move backwards. ‡ Fone, Foes. * Bet, beat, bray'd, refounded,

[30] XLVIII.

Then fwiftly drawing forth his * trenchant Blade, High o'er his Head he held his fenceful Shield; And warily fore-cafting to evade The GIANT's furious Arm, about him wheel'd, With reftlefs Steps aye traverfing the Field. And ever as his Foe's intemperate Pride, Through Rage defencelefs, mote advantage yield, With his fharp Sword fo oft he did him + gride, That his gold-fandal'd Feet in crimfon floods were dyed.

XLIX.

His bafer Parts he maim'd with many a Wound ; But far above his utmoft Reach were ‡ pight The Forts of Life: ne ever to confound With utter Ruin, and abolifh quite A Power fo puiffant by his fingle Might Did he prefume to hope: Himfelf alone From lawlefs Force to free, in bloody Fight

He flood; content to bow to CUSTOM's Throne, So REASON mote not blufh his forran Rule to own.

L. So

* Trenchant, cutting. + Gride, cut, hack. ‡ Pight, placed.

[31] L.

So well he warded, and fo fiercely prefs'd His Foe, that weary wex'd he of the Fray; Yet * nould he algates lower his haughty Creft; But masking in Contempt his fore Dismay, Disdainfully releas'd the trembling Prey, As one unworthy of his princely Care : Then proudly casting on the warlike + Fay A smile of Scorn and Pity, through the Air Gan blow his shrilling Horn; the Blast was heard afar.

LI.

Eftfoons aftonifh'd at th' alarming Sound, The Signal of Diftrefs and hoftile Wrong, Confufedly trooping from all Quarters round, Came pouring o'er the Plain a numerous Throng Of every Sex and Order, old and young; The Vaffals of great Custom's wide Domain, Who to his Lore inur'd by Ufage long, His every Summons heard with Pleafure fain, And felt his every Wound with fympathetick Pain.

LII. They,

* Nould be algates, would not by any means. + Fay, Fairy.

(32) LII.

They, when their bleeding *King* they did behold, And faw an armed KNIGHT him ftanding near, Attended by that *Palmer* fage and bold; Whofe vent'rous Search of devious Truth while-ear Spread through the Realms of *Learning* Horrors drear, Y-feized were at firft with Terrors great; And in their boding Hearts began to fear, Diffention factious, controverfial Hate,

And Innovations strange in Custom's peaceful State.

LIII.

But when they faw the KNIGHT his Fauchion fheathe, And climbing to his Steed march thence away, With all his hoftile Train, they gan to breathe With freer Spirit, and with Afpect gay Soon chaced the gathering Clouds of black Affray. Alfe their great Monarch, cheared with the View Of Myriads, who confefs'd his forran Sway, His ruffled Pride began to plume anew;

And on his Bugle clear a Strain of Triumph blew.

LIV. There-

[33] LIV.

There-at the Multitude, that flood around, Sent up at once a univerfal Roar Of boifterous Joy : the fudden-burfting Sound, Like the Explofion of a warlike Store Of nitrous Grain, th' afflicted * Welkin tore. Then turning towards the KNIGHT, with Scoffings lewd, Heart-piercing Infults, and Revilings fore, Loud Burfts of Laughter vain, and Hiffes rude, As through the Throng he pafs'd, his parting Steps purfued

LV.

Alfe from that Forked Hill the boafted Seat Of fludious Peace, and mild Philofophy, Indignant Murmurs mote be heard to threat, Muftering their Rage ; eke baleful Infamy, Rouz'd from her Den of bafe Obfcurity By thofe fame Maidens Nine, began to found Her brazen Trump of black'ning Obloquy ; While Satire, with dark Clouds encompaft round, Sharp, fecret Arrows fhot, and aim'd his Back to wound. *Welkin, Sky.

LVI. But

[34] LVI.

But the brave FAIRY KNIGHT no whit difmay'd Held on his peaceful Journey o'er the Plain ; With curious Eye obferving, as he ftray'd Through the wide Provinces of CUSTOM's Reign, What mote afrefh admonifh him remain Faft by his virtuous Purpofe; all around So many Objects mov'd his juft Difdain : Him feem'd that nothing ferious, nothing found

In City, Village, Bow'r, or Caftle mote be found.

LVII.

In Village, City, Caftle, Bow'r and Hall, Each Sex, each Age, each Order and Degree, To Vice and idle Sport abandon'd all, Kept one perpetual general Jubilee. Ne fuffered ought difturb their merry Glee ; Ne Senfe of private Lofs, ne publick Woes, Reftraint of Law, Religion's drad Decree, Inteftine Defolation, Foreign Foes, [Throws. Nor Heav'n's tempeftuous Threats, nor Earth's convulfive LVIII. But

[35] LVIII.

But chiefly They whom Heav'n's difpofing Hand Had feated high on Fortune's upper Stage ; And plac'd within their Call the facred Band That waits on Nurture and Inftruction fage, If haply their wife + Hefts mote them engage To climb through Knowledge to more noble Praife ; And as they mount, enlighten every Age With the bright Influence of fair Virtue's Rays ;

Which from the aweful Heights of Grandeur brighter blaze.

LIX.

They, O perverfe and bafe Ingratitude ! Defpifing the great Ends of Providence, For which above their Mates they were endued With Wealth, Authority, and Eminence, To the low Services of brutal Senfe Abufed the Means of Pleafures more refin'd, Of Knowledge, Virtue, and Beneficence ; And fettering on her Throne th' immortal Mind, The Guidance of her Realm to Paffions wild refign'd.

E 2 LX. Hence * Hefts, Bebefts, Precepts, Commands.

[36] LX.

Hence thoughtlefs, fhamelefs, recklefs, fpiritlefs, Nought worthy of their Kind did they affay: But or benumb'd with palfied Idlenefs In meerly living loiter'd Life away. Or by falfe Tafte of Pleafure led aftray, For-ever wand'ring in the fenfual Bow'rs Of feverifh Debauch, and luftful Play, Spent on ignoble Toils their active Pow'rs,

And with untimely Blafts difeas'd their vernal Hours.

LXI.

Ev'n They, to whom kind Nature did accord A Frame more delicate, and purer Mind, Though the foul Brothel and the wine-ftain'd Board Of beaftly *Comus* loathing they declin'd, Yet their foft Hearts to idle Joys refign'd ; Like painted Infects, through the Summer-Air With random Flight aye ranging unconfin'd ;

And tafting every Flow'r and Bloffom fair, Withouten any Choice, withouten any Care.

LXII. For

[37] LXII.

For Choice them needed none, who only fought With vain Amufements to beguile the Day; And wherefore fhould they take or Care or Thought, Whom Nature prompts, and Fortune calls to play? " I.ords of the Earth, be happy as ye may ! So learn'd, fo taught thefe Leaders of Mankind; Th' unreas'ning Vulgar willingly obey, `. And leaving Toil and Poverty behind,

Ran forth by different Ways the blifsful Boon to find.

LXIII.

Nor tedious was the Search; for every where, As nigh great CUSTOM'S royal Tow'rs the KNIGHT Pafs'd through th' adjoining Hamlets, mote he hear The merry Voice of feftival Delight Saluting the return of Morning bright With Matin-Revels, by the Mid-day Hours Scarce ended; and again with dewy Night, In cover'd Theatres, or leafy Bow'rs Offering her Evening-Vows to *Pleafure*'s joyous Pow'rs. LXIV. And

[38] LXIV.

And ever on the Way mote he efpy Men, Women, Children, a promifcuous Throng Of rich, poor, wife and fimple, low and high, By Land, by Water, paffing aye along With Mummers, Anticks, Mufick, Dance and Song, To *Pleafure*'s numerous Temples, that befide The gliftening Streams, or tufted Groves among, To every idle Foot flood open wide,

And every gay Defire with various Joys fupplied.

LXV.

For there each Heart with diverfe Charms to move,
The fly Inchantrefs fummoned all her Train :
Alluring Venus, Queen of vagrant Love,
The boon Companion Bacchus loud and vain,
And tricking Hermes, God of fraudful Gain,
Who, when blind Fortune throws, directs the Die,
And Phæbus tuning his foft Lydian Strain
To wanton Motions, and the Lover's Sigh,
And Thought-beguiling Shew, and mafking Revelry.

LXVI. Un-

[39] LXVI.

Unmeet Affociates thefe for noble Youth, Who to true Honour meaneth to afpire ; And for the Works of Virtue, Faith, and Truth Would keep his manly Faculties entire. The which avizing well, the cautious Sire From that foft *Siren-Land* of *Pleafaunce* vain With timely Hafte was minded to retire, Or ere + the fweet Contagion mote attain

His Son's unpractic'd Heart, yet free from vicious Stain. LXVII.

So turning from that beaten Road afide, Through many a devious Path he gently paced, As that experienc'd *Palmer* did him guide, 'Till to a Mountain hoare they come at laft; Whofe high-rais'd Brows with filvan Honours graced, Majeftically frown'd upon the Plain, And over all an aweful Horrour caft. Seem'd as thofe Villas gay it did difdain, Which fpangled all the Vale like *Flora*'s painted Train. LXVIII. The

+ Or ere, before.

[40] LXVIII.

The Hill afcending flrait, ere while they came To a tall Grove, whofe thick embow'ring Shade, Impervious to the Sun's meridian Flame Ev'n at mid-noon a dubious Twilight made ; Like to that fober Light, which difarray'd Of all it's gorgeous Robe, with blunted Beams, Through Windows dim with Holy Acts pourtray'd, Along fome cloifter'd Abby faintly gleams,

Abstracting the rapt Thought from vain earth-musing Themes.

LIX.

Beneath this high o'er-arching Canopy Cf cluft'ring Oaks, a Silvan Colonnade, Aye lift'ning to the native Melody Of Birds fweet-ecchoing through the lonely Shade, On to the Centre of the Grove they ftray'd ; Which, in a fpacious Circle opening round, Within it's fhelt'ring Arms fecurely laid,

Difclofed to fudden View a Vale profound, With Nature's artlefs Smiles and tranquil Beauties crown'd. LXX. There,

[4.1] LXX.

There, on the Bafis of an ancient Pile, Whofe crofs furmounted Spire o'erlook'd the Wood, A venerable MATRON they ere-while Difcover'd have, befide a murm'ring Flood Reclining in right fad and penfive Mood. Retir'd within her own abftracted Breaft, She feem'd o'er various Woes by turns to brood ; The which her changing Chear by Turns expreft, Now glowing with Difdain, with Grief now ‡ over-keft.

LXXI.

Her thus immers'd in anxious Thought profound When-as the *Knight* perceiv'd, he nearer drew; To weet what bitter Bale did her aftound, And whence th' Occafion of her anguifh grew. For that right noble MATRON well he knew; And many Perils huge, and Labours fore Had for her fake endured; her Vaffal true,

Train'd in her Love, and practiced evermore Her Honour to refpect, and reverence her Lore.

 \mathbf{F}

* Over-keft, for over-caft.

LXXII. O

[42] LXXII.

O deareft Drad ! he cried, fair Ifland-Queen ! Mother of Heroes ! Empress of the Main ! What means that ftormy Brow of troublous Teen ? * Sith heav'n-born Peace, with all her finiling Train Of Sciences and Arts, adorns thy Reign With Wealth and Knowledge, Splendour and Renown? Each Port how throng'd ! how fruitful every Plain ! How blithe the Country ! and how gay the Town !

While Liberty fecures and heightens every Boon !

LXXIII.

Awaken'd from her Trance of penfive Woe By thefe fair flattering Words, fhe rais'd her Head; And bending on the KNIGHT her frowning Brow, Mock'ft thou my Sorrows? *Fairy*'s Son, fhe faid. Or is thy Judgment by thy Heart mifled To deem that certain, which thy Hopes fuggeft? To deem them full of Life and + Luftihead,

Whofe Cheeks in *Hebe*'s vivid Tints are dreft, And with Joy's carelefs Mien, and dimpled Smiles impreft? LXXIV. Thy * Sitb, fince. + Luftibead, ftrong Health, Vigour.

[43] LXXIV.

Thy unfufpecting Heart how nobly good I know, how fanguine in thy Country's Caufe ! And mark'd thy Virtue, fingle how it ftood Th' Affaults of mighty CUSTOM, which o'er-awes The faint and timourous mind, and oft with-draws From *Reafon*'s Lore th' ambitious and the vain, By the fweet Lure of Popular Applaufe, Againft their better Knowledge, to maintain The lawlefs Throne of *Vice*, or *Folly*'s childifh Reign.

LXXV.

How vaft his Influence ! how wide his Sway ! Thy felf ere-while by proof didft underftand : And faw'ft, as through his Realms thou took'ft thy Way, How *Vice* and *Folly* had o'er-fpread the Land. And canft Thou then, O *Fairy's Son*, demand The Reafon of my Woe ? or hope to eafe The Throbbings of my Heart with Speeches bland, And Words more apt my Sorrows to increafe, [*Peace?* The once-dear Names of *Wealth*, and *Liberty*, and F 2 LXXVI.*Peace*.

[44] LXXVI.

Peace, Wealth, and Liberty, that nobleft Boon,
Are Bleffings only to the Wife and Good.
To weak and vicious Minds their Worth unknown
And thence abufed but ferve to furnish Food
For Riot and Debauch, and fire the Blood
With high-spiced Luxury; whence Strife, Debate,
Ambition, Envy, Faction's vip'rous Brood,
Contempt of Order, Manners profligate;

The Symptoms of a foul, difeafed, and bloated State. LXXVII.

Ev'n Wit and Genius, with their learned Train
Of Arts and Mufes, though from Heav'n above
Defcended, when their Talents they prophane
To varnifh Folly, kindle wanton Love,
And aid excentrick Sceptick Pride to rove
Beyond Cœleftial Truth's attractive Sphere,
This Moral System's Central Sun, aye prove
To their fond Votaries a Curfe fevere,
And only make Mankind more obftinately err.
LXXVIII. And

[45] LXXVIII.

And ftand my Sons herein from Cenfure clear ? Have They confider'd well, and underftood 'The Ufe and Import of those Bleffings dear, Which the great *Lord of Nature* hath beftow'd As well to prove, as to reward the Good? Whence are these Torrents then, these billowy Seas Of Vice, in which, as in his proper Flood, The fell *Leviathan* licentious plays,

And upon fhip-wreck'd Faith, and finking Virtue preys? LXXIX.

To you, ye Noble, Opulent and Great ! With friendly Voice I call, and honeft Zeal ! Upon your vital Influences wait The Health and Sicknefs of the Common-weal ; The Maladies you caufe, yourfelves muft heal. In vain to the unthinking harden'd Croud Will *Truth* and *Reafon* make their juft Appeal ; In vain will *facred Wifdom* cry aloud ; And *Juffice* drench in vain her vengeful Sword in Blood.

LXXX. Witls

[46] LXXX.

With You muft Reformation firft take place : You are the Head, the Intellectual Mind Of this vaft Body Politick ; whofe bafe, And vulgar Limbs, to Drudgery confign'd, All the rich ftores of Science have refign'd

To You; that, by the Craftfman's various Toil, The fea-worn Mariner, and fweating Hind, In Peace and Affluence maintain'd, the while

You, for Yourfelves and Them, may drefs the Mental Soil.

LXXXI.

Bethink you then, my Children, of the Truft In you repos'd; ne let your Heav'n-born Mind Confume in Pleafure, or unactive Ruft; But nobly rowfe you to the Tafk affign'd, The Godlike Tafk to teach and mend Mankind: Learn that ye may inftruct : to Virtue lead Yourfelves the Way; the Herd will croud behind, And gather Precepts from each worthy Deed :

" Example is a Leffon, that all Men can read. *LXXXII*. But

[47] LXXXII.

But if (to All or Moft I do not fpeak) In vain and fenfual Habits now grown old, The ftrong *Circæan Charm* you cannot break, Nor re-affume at Will your native + Mould, Yet envy not the State, you could not hold; And take Compafiion on the rifing Age : In them redeem your Errours manifold; And, by due Difcipline and Nurture fage, In Virtue's Lore betimes your docile Sons engage.

LXXXIII.

You chiefly, who like me in fecret mourn The Prevalence of CUSTOM lewd and vain ; And you, who, though by the rude Torrent borne Unwillingly along you yield with Pain To his Behefts, and act what you difdain, Yet nourifh in your Hearts the gen'rous Love Of Piety and Truth, no more reftrain

The manly Zeal ; but all your Sinews move The prefent to reclaim, the future Race improve !

LXXXIV. Eftfoon?

+ Mould, Shape, Form.

[4⁸] LXXXIV.

Eftfoons by your joint Efforts fhall be quell'd Yon haughty GIANT, who fo proudly fways A Sceptre by Repute alone upheld; Who where he cannot dictate ftrait obeys. Accuftom'd to conform his flattering Phrafe To Numbers and high-plac'd Authority, Your Party he will join, your Maxims praife, And drawing after all his menial Fry, Soon teach the general Voice your Act to ratify.

LXXXV.

Ne for th' Atchievment of this great Emprize The Want of Means or Counfel may ye dread. From my TWIN-DAUGHTERS fruitful Wombs fhall rife A Race of letter'd Sages, deeply read In Learning's various Writ: by whom y-led Through each well cultur'dPlot, each beauteous Grove, Where antique Wifdom whilom wont to tread, With mingled Glee and Profit may ye rove, And cull each virtuous Plant, each Tree of Knowledge prove.

LXXXVI. Your-

[49] LXXXVI.

Yourfelves with Virtue thus and Knowledge fraught Of what, in ancient Days of Good or Great Hiftorians, Bards, Philofophers have taught; Join'd with whatever elfe of modern Date Maturer Judgment, Search more accurate Difcover'd have of Nature, Man, and God, May by new Laws reform the Time-worn State Of cell-bred Difcipline, and fmoothe the Road That leads through *Learning*'s Vale to *Wifdom*'s bright Abode. LXXXVII.

By you invited from her fecret Bow'rs Then fhall PÆDÎA reafcend her Throne With vivid Laurels girt and fragrant Flow'rs; While from their Forked Mount defcending down Yon fupercilious pedant Train fhall own Her Empire paramount, ere long by Her Y-taught a Leffon in their Schools unknown, "To Learning's richeft Treafures to prefer "The Knowledge of the World, and Man's great Bufinefsthere: G LXXXVIII. On

[50] LXXXVIII.

On this prime Science, as the Final End Of all her Difcipline, and nurturing Care, Her Eye PÆDîA fixing aye fhall bend Her every Thought and Effort to prepare Her tender Pupils for the various War, Which Vice and Folly fhall upon them wage, As on the perilous March of Life they fare With prudent Lore fore-arming every Age 'Gainft*Pleafure*'s treacherous Joys, and Pain's embattledRage.

LXXXIX.

Then fhall my youthful Sons, to Wifdom led
By fair Example and ingenuous Praife,
With willing Feet the Paths of *Duty* tread;
Through the World's intricate or rugged Ways
Conducted by *Religion*'s facred Rays;
Whofe Soul-invigorating Influence
Shall purge their Minds from all impure Allays
Of fordid Selfifhnefs and brutal Senfe,
And fwell th' ennobled Heart with bleft Benevolence.

XC. Then

[51] XC.

Then alfo fhall this Emblematick Pile, By Magick whilom fram'd to fympathize With all the Fortunes of this changeful Ifle, Still, as my Sons in Fame and Virtue rife, Grow with their Growth, and to th' applauding Skies Its radiant Crofs up-lift; the while, to grace The multiplying niches, frefh Supplies Of Worthies fhall fucceed, with equal Pace Aye following their Sires in Virtue's glorious Race.

XCI.

Fir'd with th' Idea of her future Fame She rofe majeftick from her lowly fted ; While from her vivid Eyes a fparkling Flame Out-beaming, with unwonted Light o'erfpread That monumental Pile ; and as her Head To every Front fhe turn'd, difcover'd round The venerable Forms of Heroes dead ; Who for their varions Merit erft renown'd,

In this bright Fane of Glory Shrines of Honour found.

XCII. On

5² . XCII.

On *Thefe* that *Royal Dame* her ravifh'd Eyes Would often feaft; and ever as fhe fpy'd Forth from the Ground the *lengthning Structure* rife With *new-plac'd Statues* deck'd on every Side, Her Parent-Breaft would fwell with gen'rous Pride. And now with her in that fequefter'd Plain, The *Knight* a while conftraining to abide,

She to the Fairy Youth with Pleafure fain

Those fculptur'd Chiefs did shew, and their great Lives explain.

+ Great Lives explain.] I cannot forbear taking occasion from these Words to make my Acknowledgments to the Writers of Biographia Britannica, for the Pleafure and Profit 1 have lately received from perufing the two first Volumes of that uleful and entertaining Work, of which the monumental Structure above mentioned, decorated with the Statues of great and good Men, is no improper Emblem. This Work, which contains the Lives of the most eminent Persons, who have flourished in Great Britain and Ireland, from the earliest Ages, down to the present Time, appears to me, as far as it has hitherto gone, to be executed with great Spirit, Accuracy, and Judgment ; and deferves, in my Opinion, to be encouraged by all, who have at Heart the Honour of their Country, and that of their particular Families and Friends; and who can any ways affift the ingenious and laborious Authors, to render as perfect as poffible, a Defign fo apparently calculated to ferve the Publick, by fetting in the trueft and fulleft Light the Characters of Perfons already generally, tho' perhaps too indiffinctly known; and reviving from Obscurity and Oblivion, Examples of private and retired Merit, which, tho' lefs glaring and oftentatious than the former, are not, however, of a lefs extensive or lefs beneficial Influence. To those, who may happen not to have feen this Repository of British Glory, 'I cannot give a better Idea of it, than in the following Lines of Virgil:

Hie manus ob Patriam pugnando vulnera paffi; Quique Sacerdotes cafti, dum Vita manebat; Quique pii Vates & Phœbo digna locuti; Inventas aut Qui vitam excoluere per Artes; Euique fui memores alios fccere merendo. Virg. Æn. L. 6, The END of the First CANTO.

E. R. R. A. T.A. Stanza XII. L. 6. for Brahes, read Brakes. Stanza XXXV. L. 4. for rife read rife.

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